



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week of: November 21 , 2016

Town Offices Closed Nov. 24 & 25

All Town of Concord municipal offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Council on Aging (COA)/Senior Services

Contact: (978) 318-3020

The Harvey Wheeler Gift Shop is continuing their "Thirty Days of Holidays" event through December 22. If you are in West Concord during the hours of 10:30am and 2:00pm, Monday through Thursday, be sure to stop by and visit the wonderful ongoing sale.

The COA offers a heartfelt 'thank you' to the Youth Group and supportive parents of Holy Family who came out and dedicated a Saturday to helping seniors in need by cleaning up their lawns before winter sets in. Many seniors in our community would have no other way to get this work completed each year. Thank you for giving back to our community in this way!

The COA is seeking volunteer teachers and speakers on a wide variety of topics. Do you have a hobby that you would enjoy talking about or demonstrating? Are you a retired professor and interested in offering a short series of classes? Have you been someplace interesting lately and have an interest in sharing your experience? Please consider contacting the COA to talk about the opportunities to share your talents and experiences!

A brief history of the COA has been compiled by a dedicated group of COA volunteers and is now available on the COA Facebook page and as a link on our website. We hope you will take the time to read it and see how things have changed over the years. www.concordma.gov/coa.

Veterans Services

Contact: (978) 318-3038

The Veterans Service Officer assisted with the flag retirement ceremony at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery on the morning of veterans' day. At 11AM on the same day, Acton had their American Flag History event in Acton Center where the Concord Service Officer spoke to Acton residents of the sacrifices that our veterans have made to keep our country safe.

Also this week, a sign that is dedicated to Lt. Edward Dalton was unveiled on Dalton Road. Lt. Dalton, who grew up on Dalton Road, had made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War. This new sign replaced the original sign that New England weather had destroyed.

Community Service News

Contact: (978) 318-3034

The Good Neighbor Energy Fund (GNEF), a fuel assistance program through the Salvation Army, is available to individuals and families who do not qualify for SMOC Fuel Assistance. This program is specifically for those having a household income between 60% - 80% of the State Median Income Level. The Fund opened for the season just this week. Concord residents under the age of 60 can contact Bonny Wilbur, Community Services Coordinator, at bwilbur@concordma.gov or tel. 978-318-3034 for more information.

The Concord-Carlisle community participates in The William James INTERFACE Referral Service which assists in finding mental health and wellness services for children, adults, and families. The Referral Service can provide a wealth of information on a broad range of mental health related topics. Open Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm, the Interface Help-line phone number is: 1-888-244-6843, or contact Interface at <https://interface.williamjames.edu>. This resource is FREE to residents.

Youth Services

Contact (978) 318-3043

Screenagers: Growing Up in a Digital Age
Wednesday, November 30 at 7pm - CCHS Auditorium
Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Come see *SCREEN-AGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age*, a documentary about one of the biggest parenting issues of our time.

Both parents and students (middle school age and older) are encouraged to attend. ADVANCE Registration is required and tickets are \$5. Act quickly - tickets are selling quickly, and the first showing sold out!

Visit www.concordma.gov/CCYSevents for the link to sign up.

Middle Schoolers and the Internet:

An Evening with Katie Greer

Thursday, December 8, 7:00pm - CMS Sanborn Auditorium
How do you make the best decisions for technology and your family? One way is to be informed, educated and equipped with useful tools and strategies.

Visit www.concordma.gov/CCYS for more information.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT
Natural Resources • Planning • Building • Health

Natural Resources Division

Contact: (978) 318-3285

Natural Resources Commission meeting of November 16th: The NRC heard the following matters: the continued Notice of Intent (NOI) hearing for Middlesex School to renovate and expand the Theater Arts Building and Eliot Hall with associated site improvements; a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for 343 Nashawtuc Road to confirm the resource area delineation; and, an NOI to demolish and reconstruct a single family house at 12 Bow Street. An Order of Conditions was issued for the Concord Museum to construct an addition and expand the parking lot at 200 Lexington Road. The Commission also approved an emergency repair for the White Pond Boat Launch to prevent further erosion in this area.

New applications received this week for the December 7th NRC meeting include: an RDA for 162 Lowell Road to remove invasive species, install boulders along the shore of an existing pond and construct a footbridge; an RDA for 359 Old Bedford Road to install a fence; and, an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation to confirm the wetland delineation at 5A, 6A and 80B Keuka Road.

Health Division

Contact: (978) 318-3275

Verrill Farmstand expansion project: The expanded retail area at Verrill Farm has been completed and is now open. This is phase one of a two phase project. The second phase, relocation of the deli area and construction of a packaging room, is expected to be completed by early January.

Weights and Measures contract renewal: Administrative Assistant Karen Byrne is working with the Massachusetts Division of Standards (DOS) for renewal of the annual contract to perform required annual weights and measures inspections. The Town of Concord, through the Concord Health Division, contracts with the MA DOS to provide weights and measures inspections to ensure the accuracy of all weighing and measuring devices used for sale to the public.

Massachusetts Health Officers Association meeting: Public Health Director Susan Rask attended an MHOA education seminar on upcoming changes to the Massachusetts Food Code. These seminars provide continuing education credits needed by staff to maintain professional licensure.

Building Inspections Division

Contact: (978) 318-3280

Verrill Farmstand: Inspections staff are reviewing a proposal to increase the interior seating in the farm stand from 12 seats to 23 seats. The Board of Health will review this proposal for the impact on the septic system. The Building Inspections Division is reviewing the proposal to determine if there is adequate parking on the site for this use change. The Select Board will eventually review the proposal regarding licensing.

Middlesex School Wireless Facility: Inspections staff is working with Middlesex School and their consultant in submitting their proposal to relocate the cell tower equipment from their old power plant smoke stack to a new monopole cell tower. They propose to have four (4) co-locators on the pole.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT
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Planning Division

Contact: (978) 318-3290

Concord's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: At the November 10 Planning Board meeting, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) staff Anne Herbst and Fire Chief Mark Cotreau presented an update to the Town's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act requires towns to adopt and update a Hazard Mitigation Plan to be eligible for FEMA mitigation grants. Concord's first plan was adopted in 2010 and now must be updated. This plan update will meet FEMA's requirement and help the Town make good use of its resources. A copy of the presentation is on the Planning Division's web page at <http://www.concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/6336>

Other items at the Planning Board meeting of November 10th: The Planning Board recommended that the Zoning Board of Appeals grant the Special Permit and Site Plan with conditions for the Concord Museum expansion project. The ZBA will be hearing this application at the November 22nd meeting. The Board had further discussion regarding a potential tree preservation bylaw for the 2017 Annual Town Meeting. They will review a working draft of the bylaw at the meeting of November 29th following the public hearing for articles on the warrant for the 2016 Special Town Meeting. The Board also endorsed an ANR Plan for the Phase II Black Birch PRD to divide off the project site Lot 4A and the open space Parcel A from the existing lot that will be the remainder of the Thoreau Club.

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail - Phase 2B 25% design public hearing: MassDOT Highway Division held the 25% design public hearing on November 17th at the HWCC Auditorium for the bridge over Route 2 that will connect Phase 2A in Acton with Phase 2C in Concord. Approximately 70 people attended the hearing. During the public hearing, comments were made regarding the design of the bridge over Route 2, some favoring a wider bridge capable of supporting an emergency vehicle (which is the design favored by Fire and Police staff). Attendees learned that there were not adequate funds currently available for the next design phase (there is a shortfall of approximately \$350,000) and that a request would be submitted to MassDOT by the Towns of Acton and Concord.

Community Preservation Committee public hearing on November 14: Approximately 30 people attended the CPC Public Hearing on the 15 funding applications for the 2017 annual Town Meeting. Chair Dee Ortner presented general information on the program and funds available this year, as well as information on the 15 application submitted this year, and addressed questions from the public. CCTV was present and taped the presentations and questions for future broadcast. The CPC begins working on the funding recommendations at its next meeting on Wednesday, November 30.

Historic Districts Commission meeting of November 17: The HDC reviewed one continued and four new applications for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission approved Certificates of Appropriateness for new solar panels at 415 Lowell Road; restoration of the storefronts, new lighting, and changes to two doorways at 49-57 Main Street; a new railing at 32 Court Lane, and a new fireplace vent at 52 Bow Street. After lengthy discussion, the Commission voted 3-2 to approve the new building as constructed at 427 Lowell Road, with requirements that the landscaping surrounding the front of the house is to be maintained by future owners to remain compliant with the approval. Installation of shutters on the front façade is the last item to be completed with regard to the HDC review of the site.